## THE STRANGE EXPLOITS OF A NEW YORKER WHO FOUND HIMSELF RULER OF AN ISLAND PRINCIPALITY

# THE PRINCE AND BETTY

John Mando, a New Yorker, to som of the former Pyince of Morro, a tigy Mediterranean stand. The Prince was itched out and a remarket formed as Merro. The Prince's American wife brought John back to New York, Hoon after. for brought John back to New Tark, Soon after-ard both the boy's parents died. John, growing manhood, loves and is loved by Besty Nilver; lough on neither side is this love confaced, enjamin Sachell. Setty's stepfather, is a pro-toter. He gains content of Merre and starts gambling casine there. Thinking to advertise to place by the presence of a real prince, is rude for John and makes him papper ruler of to island. Besty, realising the nature of this love, despices John for his shape in it. The contest decides to marry Besty to John. When sobull and his cister Masian suggest this alliance when girl she angrily returns.

### CHAPTER V.

Mr. Scobell Is Frank.

body says so. You like him, Bennie, don't you?"

Sure, I like him. He's a corker. Wait till you see him, Betty. Nobody's asking you to marry him before lunch. You'll have plenty of time to get acquainted. It beats me what you're kicking at. You give me a pain in the neck. Be reasonable."

Betty sought for arguments to clinch her refusal.

"Hetty!"

She got up quickly.

In the confused state of his mind, John found it necessary, if he were to speak at all, to say the essential thing in the shortest possible way. Pollshed periods are not for the man who is feeling despity.

"Because I know he's a sensible self to repeat a lesson. They jarred young skeesleks. That's how. See upon her.

"Don't!" she said sharply "Oh, strolled out with his hands in his pack. You away to dear, "Don't!" she said sharply "Oh, strolled out with his hands in his pockets, but without a word to his pockets, but without a word to his pockets, but without a word to his have stirred him more if she had uttered a cry of physical pain.

"Beaty, you've got hold of wrong ideas about this place. You away to med a soft hat over his eyes and strolled out with his hands in his pockets, but without a word to his household staff as to where he was going or when he might be expected to return.

"Bon't! I know. I've been told."
"Been told?"
"Been told?"
"She's beaten it. She's heaf way to med a soft hat over his eyes and hear to his the darned boat going out!"
"She's beaten it. She's half way to med a soft hat over his eyes and household staff as to where he was going or when he might be expected to return.

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"She's beaten it. She's half way to med a soft hat over his eyes and hear to he darned boat going out!"
"She's beaten it. She's beate

"He bit my head off, my dear," nurmured Miss Scobell, knitting plamurmured Miss Scobell, knitting placidly.

"You're thinking that Mervo is an ordinary state, and that the Prince is one of those independent, all-wool, off-with-his-darned-head rulers like you read about in the best sellers, well, you've got another guess coming. If you want to know who's the leg noise here, it's me-me! This prince guy is my hired man. See? Who sent for him? I did. Who put him on the throne? I did. Who put him on the throne? I did. Who pays him his salary? I do, from the profits of the Casino. Now do you understand? He knows his job. He nows on which side his bread's but-

winging round suddenly and causing his sister to drop another stitch. "Maybe you think he's some kind of a dago, this guy? Maybe that's what's biting you. Let me tell you that he's an American—pretty near as much an American as you are

And in this bleak world they stood silent and motionless while cons rolled by.

Betty was the first to speak.

"I'm late," she said.

John searched in his brain for words, and came empty away. He shook his head dumbly.

"Shall we sit down?" said Betty.

John indicated silently the sandstone rock on which he had been communing with himself.

They sat down. A sense of being preposterously and indecently big obsessed John. There seemed no end to him. Wherever he looked, there were hands and feet and legs. He was a vast blot on the face of the earth. He glanced out of the corner of his eye at Betty. She was gazing out to see.

He dived into his brain again. It was absurd! There must be something

UNT MARION, suspending thing had befallen. He had no voice. It had gone. He knew that, try he never so hard to speak, he would not be able to utter a word. Had he ever done anything but sit dumbly on that rock, looking at those sea gulls out in the water?

"I'm sure he's a very nice young man. I have not seen him, but every-body says so. You like him. Bennie.

And then he realized that a worse thing had befallen. He had no voice. It had gone. He knew that, try he never so hard to speak, he would not be able to utter a word. Had he ever done anything but sit dumbly on that rock, looking at those sea gulls out in the water?

He shot another swift glance at Betty, and a thrill went through him.

The next moment—the action was almost automatic—his left hand was clasping her right, and he was moving

along the rock to her side.

She snatched her hand away.

His brain, ransacked for the third time, yielded a single word.

"It's ridiculous," she said. "You talk as if you had just to wave your hand. Why should your prince want to marry a girl he has never seen?"
"He will," said Mr. Scobell condently.
"How do you know?"
"Because I know he's a sensible "Because I know he's a know he's a know he's a know he'

"Don't! I know. I've been told."
"Been told?"
She went on quickly.
"I know all about it. My stepfather has just told me. He said—he
said you were his"—she choked—
"his hired man; that he paid you
lo stay here and advertise the Casion. to stay here and advertise the Casino.

Oh, it's too horrible! That it should be you! You, who have been you can't understand what you—have been to me—ever since we met; you couldn't understand. I can't tell you—a sort of help—something—something that—I can't put it into words.

Only it was do to be help me that to block. him on the throne? I did. Was pays him his salary? I do, from the profits of the Casino. Now do you understand? He knows his job. He nows on which side his bread's buttered. When I tell him about this marriage, do you know what he'll say? He'll say 'Thank you, sir', hat's how things are in this island. Betty shuddered. Her face was white with humiliation. She half-raised her hands with an impulsive movement to hide it.

She broke off. John stood motionless, staring at the ground. For the
first time in his easygoing life he
knew shame. Even now he had not
grasped to the full the purport of
her words. The scales were falling
his eyes, but as yet he saw

"Miss Sliver and I had met before
"Miss Sliver and I had met before"
"Miss Sliver and I had met before"

white dress that gleamed between the reces.

His heart was singing within him. She had come. She had not forgotion or changed her mind or wilfully abandoned him. His mood lightened swiftly. Humility vanished. He was not such an outcast, after all. He was some one. He was the man Petty filver had come to meet. Fix with the sight of her face came reaction.

Her face was pale and cold and hard She did not speak or smile. As she Gew near she leviked at him, and there was that in her look which set a chill wind blowing through the world and cast a veil across the sun.

Arriving at the palace, he was informacion to see it to fore. No description could have been fore. No description could have been fore. No description could have been fore. You might have added that I was nothing more than a steerer for a gambling hell."

"Oh, come, Prince!"

There was a knock at the door. A gambling hell."

There was a knock at the door. A gambling hell."

There was a knock at the door. A description could have been fore. No description could have been fore. You might have added that I was nothing more than a steerer for a parbolic hear in the information with a tinkle of dispersion in the household of a German prince, where rigid ceremonial obtained, and John's cheerful disregard of formalities frankly should be fore. You might have added that I was nothing more than a steerer for a parbolic hear in the information with a tinkle of dispersion in the household of a German prince, where rigid ceremonial obtained, and John's cheerful disregard of formalities frankly should be a similar position in the household of a German prince, where rigid ceremonial obtained all responsibility, a letter on a silver tray. When the sight of the fore was a knock at the door. A german prince, where rigid ceremonial obtained all responsibility, a letter on a silver tray. When the sight of the fore was a knoc



to enjoy the air of a morning, it had been a domestic event full of stir "Gone! What do you mean?" "Gone! What do you mean?" "She's beaten it. She's half way "She's beaten it. She's half way "She's beaten it. She's half way "She's beaten it."

bly and directed his chauffeur to return to the villa. He could not have done better, for on his arrival he was met with the information that His Highness had called to see him shortly after he had left and was now

pacing the floor like a caged animal at the luncheon hour. The resem-blance was heightened by the expression in the royal eye as His High-ness swung round at the opening of the door and faced the financier. "Why, say, Prince," said Mr. Sco-il, "this is lucky. I been looking for you. I just been to the palace and the main guy there told me you had gone out."
"I did. And I met your stepdaugh-

to a boy to take to you directly the boat has started. Please do not try to bring me back. I would die than marry the Prince." John started violently. "What!" he cried.

Mr. Scobell nodded sympathy.
"That's what she says. She sure
has it in bad for you. What does she "I don't understand. Why does she say that to you? Why should she think that you knew that I had asked her to marry me?"

"Eh?" cried Mr. Scobell. "You had your notice to quit. After to-night the casino is closed."
"But don't I tell you that the people together and do something. The girl's mad. See here, you aren't wise to what's been happening. I been fixing this thing up.

"I've said all I have to say. You've had your notice to quit. After to-night the casino is closed."
"That's for them to decide. They may have some self-respect."
"They'll fire you!"

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who expect to spend the summer in the country.

derstood everything now. Every word that Betty had spoken, every gesture that she had made, had become amazingly clear. He saw now why

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A submitted with the content of the last. If he went low, he would be that any sitted we we came to go the content of the cont

girl's mad! See here, you aren't wise to what's been happening. I been fixing this thing up. I fetched you over here, and then I fetched Betty, and I was going to have you two marry. I told Betty all about it this thousand dollars a year as if it was morning."

John cut through his explanations with a sudden sharp cry. A blinding blaze of understanding had flashed upon him. It was as if he had been groping his way in a dark cavern and had stumbled unexpectedly into brilliant sunlight. He un-

the wall was not comforting. It was not a heroic soul that, stripped of its defenses, shivered beneath the sorus first and money after. That military and civilians alike would rally to a mended the breach, excusing and extendating, but not now. He looked at himself without pity, and saw himself weak, slothful, devoid of all that

whole of the next passed without sensation. The third morning, as John was talking with Crump and Gen. Poineau a crowd gathered in the square outside the palace.

CHAPTER VII.

Changes Its Constitution.

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Changes Its Constitution it is principally a matter of retrospect. In after years the first and last of the cast side. John was wont to look back musement on the revolution piected him from the throne

whole of the next passed without sensation. The third morning, as John was passed without sensation. The third morning, as John was talking with Crump and Gen. Poineau a crowd gathered in the square outside the palace.

As John stepped out on a balcony a howl of rage burnt from the mob.

John stood looking down on them, resting his arms on the parapet. The howl was repeated, and from somewhere at the back of the crowd came the first and last of the campaign.

John was wont to look back musement on the revolution piected him from the throne

A broad smile spread over his face.

If he had studied for a year he could not have hit on a swifter or more effective method of quieting the mob. There was something so engag-ing and friendly in his smile that the howling died away and fists that had been shaken unclenched themselves

"Tell him no, but add that I shall be too ridiculous—"I'm her niece," she tickled to death to abdicate, if that's what they want. Speed them up, old man. Tell them to make up their minds on the jump, because I want to catch to-day's boat. Don't let them get to discussing it or they'll stand there talking till sunset. Yes or no. That's the idea."

The death to abdicate, if that's said.

Like so many scenes of childhood, and work. You'll find him pleasant in the cast side. He's useful at the entertainments—does conjuring trick—stupid, but they seem to amuse per that nothing had changed. There that nothing had changed. There is the delitor of a stration. The cast side is the control of a cross stration in the cast side. He's useful at the cast side.

knew you could get the possession of an income quick as any one else if you gave your ley.

Even the possession of an income thing like a revolution. It's a model thing like a revolution. It's a model of eighteen million dollars and a wretten thing like a revolution. It's a model of eighteen million dollars and a wretten the making of unique collection of clocks cannot was must close down the enterplace a woman above the making of "Yes." said Betty.

"Yes." said Betty.

"And work. Keep on working!" (To Be Continued.)

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on on other folks." Do you know how we may so the same evening that of the power of the joint of the power of the joint of

# CHAPTER IX.

A Letter of Introduction.

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A Letter of Introduction.

The old woman began to again.

The old woman began to again.

"Child, it's the same with year again.

"It did not take her long to the again.

"It did not take her long to the again.

"It did not take her long to the again.

"It will get worse and worse if you are again.

"It will get worse and worse it.

It work!"

The same again.

"Child, it's the same with year again.

"It did not take her long to the again.

"It did not take her long to the again.

"It did not take her long to

"Ask her if she can see me." said well enough for Mr. Renshaw on m.
Betty. "I'm"—great-niece sounded recommendation. I'll give you a letter to him. He is the editor of a systy

There was a moment's surprised were the clocks, all round the walls, silence when Mr. Crump had spoken. The Mervian mind was unused to being hustled in this way. Then a voice shouted, as it were tentatively, "Vive perky clocks. There was the dingy, and at once the cry medium sized clock that held the was taken up on all sides.

There was a moment's surprised were the clocks, all round the walls, introduction during the course of these remarks. At the last word she blotted it and placed it in an enveloped the address, she said. "That's the address, she said. "That's the address, she said. "That's the address. She had been writing the letter of introduction during the course of these remarks. At the last word she blotted it and placed it in an enveloped in the said of the said

By P. G. Wodehouse

On the following morning there came a note from Mr. Scobell. It was brief. "Come on down before the shooting begins," it ran. John tore it up.

It was on the same evening that definite hostilities may be said to have begun.

Let a typewriter reasonably well. The padding.

Mrs. Oakley watched her with glowering eye. "If Bennie Scobell, forting, like a rock in a quicksand. It she sollioquised, "imagines that be a complete to the same evening that marketable, something of value for which persons paid.

The padding.

Mrs. Oakley watched her with glowering eye. "If Bennie Scobell, can dictate to me"— She cased that be with glowering eye. "If Bennie Scobell, can dictate to me"— She cased that be with glowering eye. "If Bennie Scobell, and in the sollioquised, "imagines that be said to which persons paid.

the cottage from charity workers on the east side. Those were her two hobbies, and her only extravagances—clocks and charity.

It was to this somewhat unpromising haven of refuge that Betty's mind now turned in her trouble. She did not expect great things. She could not have said exactly what she did expect. But, at least, the cottage on Staten Island offered a resting place on her journey, even if it could not be the journey's end. Her mad dash from Mervo ceased to be objectless.

It led somewhere.

trembling.

"I'm so sorry," she whispered.

"I'm so sorry." she whis She stopped, quivering. Betty was

cold with a nameless dismay. She felt as if she were standing in the dark on the brink of an abyes.

"Not very well?"
"H'm. Well, I expect you will do !-

was taken up on all sides.

John beamed down on them.

"That's right." he said. "Bully! I knew you could get a move on as quick as any one else if you gave your minds to it. This is what I call something like a revolution. It's suppression of an income turned to so.

Even the possession of an income turned to so. turned to go.
"Tell me how you get on," the

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